

Appl. No. 10/600,412  
Reply dated February 18, 2006  
Reply to Office Action mailed September 23, 2005

REMARKS

The present application and its claims are directed to an automated system for storing and picking articles. The examiner's objection to the claims have been overcome.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Applicant has amended the claims to overcome the examiner's objection to the claims.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

In response to the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) of claims 1-2, 5-9 and 14 as being anticipated by US Patent No. 3,661,280 to Atwater, the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) of claims 1-2, 4, 6, 8-9, 12 and 14 as being anticipated by US Patent No. 5,733,098 to Lyon et al. and the examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 of claim 11 over Atwater in view of US Patent No. 6,139,243 to Jackson et al. and the examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 of claims 10 and 13 over Atwater in view of US Patent No. 4,909,697 to Bernard and DE 4213351, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections. In particular, applicant has amended the claims to incorporate the allowable feature of claim 3 and therefore claims 1-2 and 4-14 are allowable over the prior art.

With respect to new method claims 31-41, these new method claims are substantially similar to the allowed apparatus claims and allowable over the prior art for at least the same reasons as claims 1-2 and 4-14.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-2, 4-14 and 31-41 are allowable over the prior art cited by the Examiner and early allowance of these claims and the application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the number below in order to speed the prosecution of this application.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Deposit Account No. 07-1896.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: 2-21-06

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